

REMARKS

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 1 and 9 have been amended. Claims 22-30 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Accordingly, Claims 1-21 are pending and under consideration.

Rejection of Claims 1-30 Under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) or §103(a)

The Office Action rejects claims 1-20 and 22-30 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Publication 2003/0106647 to Koshiishi et al. (hereinafter referred to as "Koshiishi"), and rejects claim 21 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Koshiishi. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Koshiishi does not disclose, teach, or suggest at least, "wherein: the guide ring electrode is interposed between the first guide ring dielectric material layer and the second guide ring dielectric material layer, the first guide ring dielectric material layer is interposed between the guide ring electrode and the guide ring, and the second guide ring dielectric material layer is interposed between the guide ring electrode and the main body," as recited in claim 1.

In contrast, Koshiishi discloses a dielectric film 14b between the holder main body 11 and focus ring 12 (paragraph [0029] and Figure 1 of Koshiishi). Therefore, for at least these reasons, claims 1, 22, 28, and 31 are patentably distinguishable from the cited reference.

Claims 2-21 depend from claim 1 and include all of the features of claim 1. Therefore, for at least these reasons, claims 2-21 are also patentably distinguishable from the cited reference.

Claims 22-30 are cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Accordingly, withdrawal of these rejections is respectfully requested.

Summary

Claims 1-21 are pending and under consideration. It is respectfully submitted that none of the references taken alone or in combination disclose the present claimed invention.

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

Serial No. 10/823,550

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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